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RR RECONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE MAKES 1950 PLANS; MORE SOUTH CHINA HIGHWAYS OPEN

STRESSES BRIDGE REPAIR -- Wen-hui Pao, 25 Jan 50

Pei-p'ing, 23 January (Hsin-hua) -- In order that the 1950 railroad construction and reconstruction plans may be successfully fulfilled, a meeting was called by the Ministry of Railroads of the Central People's government in Peip'ing from 17 January through 25 January 1950. Over 200 staff officers and railroad technicians from the engineering, supply, and construction sections of the Ministry of Railroads and military railroad engineer units were present.

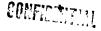
A summary of accomplishments of the 1949 reconstruction plans and of the principal projects of the 1950 program were reported by Lu Cheng-ts'ao, Deputy Minister of Railroads. He pointed out that the most important projects in the 1950 plans are: beginning of long-range maintenance of lines already repaired; completion of repairs which could not be finished in 1949; and construction of new lines. With regard to the long-range maintenance work, major effort would be exerted on three trunk lines, the Pei-p'ing--Han-k'ou, Han-k'ou--Kuang-chou, and Lien-yun--Lan-chou railroads.

The Deput- Minister reported that the most important repair and minor construction projects for: 1950 are: (1) repairs on existing lines, construction of sidings and double tracks, relocation of certain lines, and increasing and lengthening of spurs; (2) repairs on 1,339 permanent bridges totaling 27,895 meters, and in addition 4,192 meters of temporary bridges; (3) strengthening of 261 steel bridge trusses, and reinforcement of 910 meters of bridge approaches; (4) repair of 122 water towers; (5) construction of buildings with 92,924 square meters of space; (6) stringing 37,578 kilometers of copper and 24,655 kilometers of steel communication wires; and (7) installation of 133,246 telephone and telegraph poles.

Construction of the T'ien-shui--Lan-chou and the Ta-t'ung--T'ang-ku lines and of a bridge over the Ch'ang Chiang and another over the Huang Ho are to be started in 1950.

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Of the total expenditures for projects to be carried out in 1950, 40.5 percent is to be spent on the repair and construction of bridges.

ANNOTINCES RESULTS OF 1949 RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM -- Wen-hui Pao, 22 Jan 50

Kuang-chou, 21 January -- The head of the Kuang-chou Branch Office of the Yueh-Han Railroad, Lei T'ien-ming, announced, at a staff officers meeting that, between 22 October and 31 December 1949, five large railroad bridges on his section of the Yueh-Han line, totaling 602 meters in length, and the roadbed from Kuang-chou to San-shui, involving 59,200 cubic yards of earthwork, were repaired by the workers of his section.

During the same period, the income from the actual operation of the Kuang-chou section of the railroad totaled 880,319,025 yuan. This sum does not include silver currency taken in or the estimated charges for transporting military goods. Of the total of 33,044 tons of freight transported during that period, 29,989 tons were full-car commercial cargoes, 19,200 tons were less than full-carloads of miscellaneous cargoes, 24,285 tons were military cargoes, 13,010 tons were railroad construction materials, and 6,560 tons were coal.

PEI-P'ING TO T'IEN-CHING LINE NOW DOUBLE-TRACKED -- Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao, 2 Feb 50

T'ien-ching, 25 January 1950, (NCNA) -- Double-tracking has been completed between Pei-p'ing and T'ien-ching and service has begun. As a result, the capacity for handling trains has been increased by 34 per day in both directions.

KWANGTUNG--KWANGSI HIGHWAY IS COMPLETE -- Wen-hui Pao, 21 Jan 50

Kuang-chou -- Reconstruction of the 257-mile section of the Kwangtung--Kwangsi highway between Kuang-chou and Hsin-hsuan, which began on 25 November 1949, was completed 19 January 1950 by workers and technicians of the Highway Bureau, engineer troops, a mechanized road-construction unit, and a large num-

This highway runs from Kuang-chou, through San-shui, Kao-yao, Yun-fou, Loting, Hsin-hsuan, Mao-ming, Hua-hsien, and then connects with the Kuang-chou-Chan-chiang highway at Mei-lu. There is another road which leads westward from Hsin-hsuan to Pei-liu and other points in eastern Kwangsi Province.

On the Kwangtung--Kwangsi highway there are a total of 142 bridges and 380 culverts, most of which had to be repaired. Important bridges include:

Hsi-nan -- 180 meters T'ai-p'ing -- 96 meters Pai-shih -- 96 meters Ta-sha -- 90 meters

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Tung-chen -- 86 meters Lo -- 66 meters Chen-an -- 44 meters Chueh-ting -- 33 meters

The original plan was to build the Kwangtung--Kwangsi highway from Sanshui, through Kao-yao, Yun-fou, Yu-nan and Lo-ting to Ts'en-ch'i in Kwangsi Province, but since the roadbed from Lo-ting west to Ssu-lun was in such a wretched condition, and the mountainous terrain in the Kwangtung-Kwangsi border area was so difficult for a highway through to Ts'en-ch'i, it was dropped, and the much easier route, from Lo-ting southward to Hsin-huan and then to Pei-lia, was adopted.

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T'AI-SHAN TO CH'IM-SHUI HIGHWAY OPEN -- Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao, 21 Jan 50

With the conclusion of a contract between two motor companies, there is now direct through service on the highway between T'ai-shan and Ch'ih-shui. Highways in three directions out of Hao-shan (14528, 2528) in Kwangtung, north, east and south, are being rebuilt by the volunteer labor of young farmers who have finished winter plowing, and who are working under the direction of a road works committee appointed by the People's government.

REPAIRS ON KUANG-CHOU--TSENG-CH'ENG HIGHWAY COMPLETE -- Wen-hui Pao, 25 Jan 50

Kuang-chou -- Repairs on the highway from Kuang-chou to Tseng-ch'eng were completed on 14 January 1950 by one of the three construction units of the Highway Bureau of the Kuang-chou Military Control Commission.

SCHEDULED BUS SERVICE BEGINS IN LIU-CHOU AREA -- Wen-hui Pao, 22 Jan 50

Liu-chou -- Twenty or more scheduled buses leave each day from Liu-chou to Kuei-lin, Nan-ning, Ch'ang-an, Ho-ch'ih, ani Yu-lin. All of these buses, organized into three companies, are operated by the Liu-chou Branch Office of the Kwangsi Highway Bureau. Each company is divided into three platoons, and each platoon is again divided into three sections.

The branch office is planning to build two new automobile repair shops to facilitate repairs and maintenance of buses and other vehicles in this area. When this office was taken over, there were 68 serviceable and 148 unserviceable vehicles in the area. Since then, 34 additional ones have been made serviceable by the mechanics of the repair shops.

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